

ORIGIN AND CUSTOM OF HALLOWEEN

Popularity of Festival Grows With Each Succeeding Year.

WAYS TO AMUSE GUESTS ARE MANY

Fires Must Be Lighted and Jack-o'-Lanterns Glow From Every Corner.

THE popularity of Halloween parties has grown with each succeeding year. The day, or evening, is the last of October, a beautiful season, and one which provides ample means of carrying out Halloween substitutions.

Like all festival days now having apparently only a secular interpretation, Halloween had a religious origin.

As far back as we know, it has been customary to celebrate the last day of October.

Tradition holds that, long ere the Wise Men of the East proclaimed the birth of Christ, a great festival was held on October 31st by Druid priests.

As nation by nation became Christianized the day was called "All Hallow's" because it preceded All Saints' day.

For many years this day has come to be regarded by old and young alike as the day par excellence on which to entertain.

There are a great many ways to amuse guests on this watching night, so many in fact, that a hostess must choose from the time-worn customs those best suited to the enjoyment of her particular company and friends.

Two hundred years ago it was customary to build great bonfires on the hills to proclaim that majestic and sacred rites were being performed, and it was a season of great rejoicing. In honor of this custom a huge log fire is a desirable attribute to a Halloween party.

Even in the city house or apartment, where only a gas log is possible, be sure to light it, and use candles only for illumination. Jack-o'-lanterns must glow from every available corner.

Things To Eat.

Have pop-corn to be popped by the guests; dishes filled with bright red apples, and bowls filled with nuts to crack.

For this is the one night of the year when Fate is supposed to give us power to peer into the future and divine the course of true love.

Tassels from corn ears are named by the maidens, then placed over the door, and the man first to pass under the one bearing his name is supposed to be the life partner of the girl who named it.

While bobbing for apples is an old, old custom, no Halloween party is quite complete without it. Fill a small tub with water, put in eight or ten apples, first having inserted in one of them a ring, in another a thimble, in the third a coin, and in still another a button.

Those significant tokens will decide the fate of the four persons getting the apples containing them on the spot.

Candle.

The candle fortune is another popular one. Place lighted candles in the open window. The one which burns the longest is the one who will remain faithful to the end. The candles are silently named before they are lighted.

A Dutch lunch served at midnight is an attractive refreshment for a Halloween party. Brown and rye bread, older, coffee, potato salad with grilled herring, olives, cheese, and a big mystery cake, should make up the menu.

This cake is cut by lot, it being a "for" to cut the first slice. Inside the cake are tiny white bags (inserted before baking or icing) containing four, which indicates a wealthy marriage; sugar, signifying a long match; corn meal which shows that the recipient will have to work for a living; and three empty bags which foretell single blessedness for the next year.

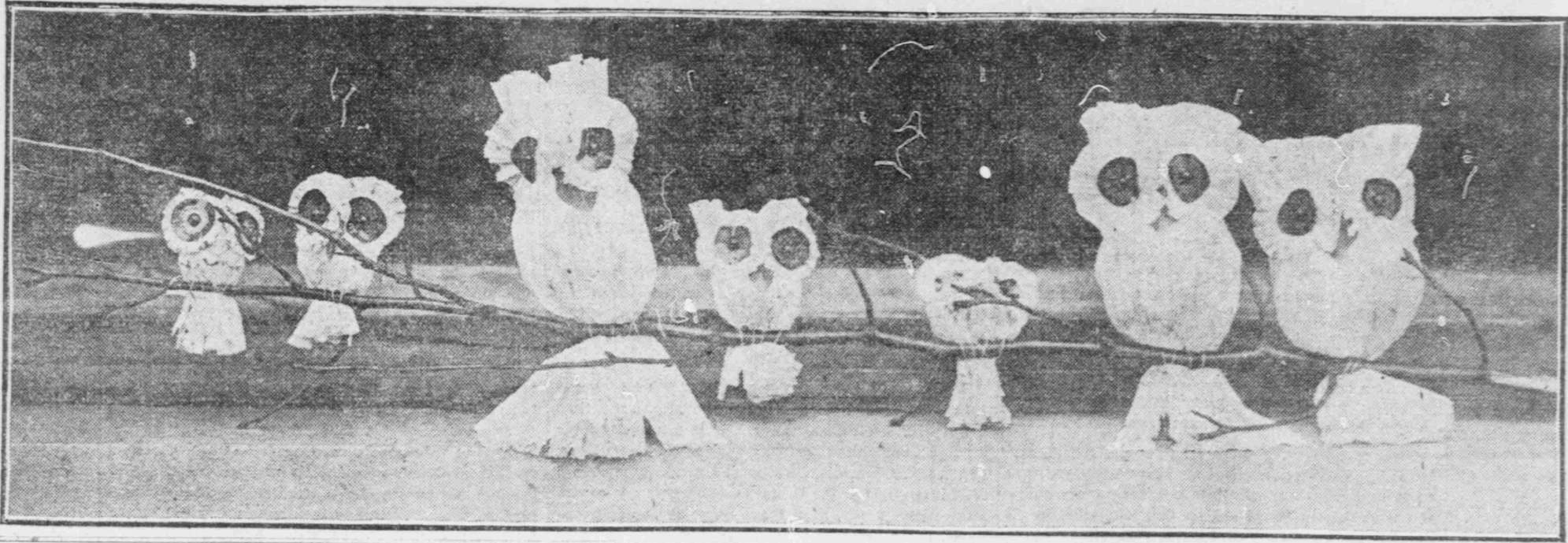
In the way of quotations for place cards, the hostess has a store of riches from which to draw by consulting Shakespeare or Burns.

MAKES NICE GIFT FOR A TRAVELER

A small silver novelty that makes a useful gift for a traveler is a flat, plain silver case to hold the books of powder paper. The case is double, clasping like a card case, and is made with an inner rim, beneath which the powder book covers are dipped.

Marked with a monogram on one side and date on the other, such a case makes a useful engagement present; unmarked it is suitable for a prize.

Witching Hours of "All Hallow" Day Are Again Drawing Near



HALLOWEEN COTILLON IS EASILY ARRANGED

THE girl who has a room big enough for dancing should give a Halloween cotillon. At no other holiday season has she as great an opportunity for originality and amusing favors at small cost.

Should there be no room in the house a clean barn floor, well waxed, is especially appropriate for such a dance. The unusualness of the ballroom will make it the more enjoyable. A place for the musicians can be fixed in the loft or a corner may be turned into an autumn bower, with stacks of grain and a screen of autumn leaves and Virginia creeper fastened to wire screening or strings.

The illumination should be entirely from the weird lanterns that come in the shape of hats, snakes, pumpkins, witches, masks, cats, and owls. These lanterns are made like the well-known Chinese ones, and can be found at any shop where Halloween novelties are sold.

An ingenious girl can make her own lanterns from light-colored frames, use soapy water for washing, and mix with them could be grotesque Jack-o'-lanterns cut from all sizes of pumpkins. Be careful in making a paper lantern that the opening is wide enough at the top so the paper does not come near the flame. A burnt home is a sorry ending to a frolic.

For decorations use grains, autumn leaves, bunches of yellow chrysanthemums and weird shapes of Halloween symbols cut from black cardboard and suspended by wires so they float thickly in the air above the head.

The refreshments can be kept light, but even when a salad, croquettes, nuts, apples, cider, popcorn, and taffy, the traditional food at a Halloween feast.

For a dance, especially in a barn, there need not be as much effort to have accessories in the service as at a Halloween luncheon or dinner. The less the better. The service should be simple. If the service table is set in one corner of the room or barn, the less can be disused from great yellow pumpkins.

Among the favors appropriate to a Halloween dance are pieces of Italian coral or tiny handkerchiefs, black cat, witch, and bat pin cushions, brooms and witches' caps, vegetable horns, grotesque masks, mirrors for seeing the future, ropes and chains made of string, popcorn and cranberries, pipe and tobacco pouches in cat, bat, or witch decorations, pumpkin lanterns swung from light bamboo poles.

The element of chance should enter into most of the favors, though these favors are exchanged can be danced without special design. Every other dance at least should be a figure.

It is important in a Halloween cotillon to have a leader who is "agony" and who is skilled enough to lead most of the dancers on the floor at once. It is not much fun for most of the young people to be led to a corner where they are to stand and go through some figure, however amusing.

Some Handy Hints for the Household

Use cotton to mend gloves rather than silk; it shows less and is stronger.

Finger marks on doors can be removed with a rag dipped in paraffin. Afterward wash the door with a little hot water, and the smell will soon go off.

Gilt on china will not last long if soda be used in the washing of it; therefore, use soapy water for washing teacups, etc., patterned with gilt, and keep soda carefully away from them.

A quick way of making bread crumbs is to put the crumb from a stale loaf into a muslin bag, tie at the top, and then rub gently between the two hands for a few minutes. The crumbs will be fine enough for any purpose.

When hanging pictures don't drive in nails at random, but seek out the crevices between the bricks with a darning needle. If the needle won't penetrate the wall, don't try to drive in a nail, but seek another spot for it. In this way trouble is saved, and also damage to the wallpaper.

Zinc is easily cleaned with whiting and water mixed to the consistency of thick cream.

To clean a lamp chimney hold it over the steam of a kettle for a few moments, then polish it with a clean, dry cloth or, better still, some soft paper.

If fat or milk boil over on the kitchen stove, salt thrown on it will keep down the smell. If grease be spilled on table or floor, cold water thrown on it will set it and prevent its sinking into the wood.

Dishcloths may be easily kept bright and clean. Remove grease with warm water and soda, then with a soft cloth, then apply a little metal polish with a flannel. A final polish with fine whiting will then make the covers look like silver.

Daily Horoscope

"The stars incline, but do not compel."

Sunday, October 23, 1910.

With mercur Saturn shines On treacherous designs.

ASTROLOGY marks this as an evil twenty-four-hour period for anything that cannot bear full light. Deceit, deranged schemes, gossip, intrigue, conspiracy of any kind, however trivial, deceit and attempts to mislead anybody often have unexpectedly malignant results under such configurations.

Especially powerful and afflicting tonight is the tendency of the planet Saturn, which is in strong position.

There will be little profit today in mercenary plans or in contrivances for gaining advantage over others. Even ordinary commercial matters will probably benefit little from discussion or consideration under this influence.

The indications are that this is essentially a day favorable to a withdrawal of the mind from the world, burdening matters of every day.

There is a bright sign over the open country and everything concerned with things close to the soil.

There is favor, also, for elderly persons.

The Moon is in a sign held of old to make for inharmonious tendencies in the cases of persons unduly ambitious for social distinction and sensation.

There is a warning also against tendencies toward fault-finding and criticism.

Under this rule indulgence is always dangerous, and all persons must refrain zealously from excesses.

Persons who love notoriety are in danger under these influences of doing something that will cause them much future trouble and disgrace.

Those who have themselves to think and to force their views on others will profit by practicing silence and remaining strictly reserved, as they are likely to be carried away and to become disliked by one whose good opinion they crave.

Persons with this birth-date usually gain by forcing themselves to think and consider instead of giving rein to their inclination for quick retort.

Children are born today under aspects promising success from steady, sober endeavor.

ONE DAY'S MENU; HOW TO PREPARE IT

BREAKFAST.

Cream of Wheat with Bananas.

Fried Egg Plant with Bacon.

Whole Wheat Puffs.

Coffee.

LUNCHEON.

Creamed Oysters and Fish. Celery.

Graham Nut.

Apple Orange Marmalade.

Cocoa.

DINNER.

Celery Bouillon.

Stuffed Rump Steak.

Baked Potatoes. Steamed Squash.

Grapefruit and Celery Salad.

Pear Shortcake.

Demi Tasse.

Cream of Wheat with Bananas.—When a quart of cream of wheat is ready to serve, quickly chop five bananas, sweeten with a little confectioner's sugar, add a teaspoon of lemon juice, and pass through a sieve. Serve this with the wheat, with or without cream.

Creamed Oysters and Fish.—One cup of rich white sauce, two cups cold flaked fish, one large cup of oysters. Butter a baking dish, put in layers of fish, oysters, season with salt and pepper, then white sauce. Cover with cracker or bread crumbs and bake until a rich brown.

Apple Orange Marmalade.—One-half cup of apples, cut in small pieces with a peeler. Barely cover with water and cook until soft. Peel just the yellow rind from three oranges, then remove the white part and put the yellow peel and oranges through the grinder. Add this to the strained apple juice and measure before boiling. Boil thirty minutes and add some quantity of sugar as measured liquid and boil hard five minutes, or until it drops thick from a spoon. This will make about twenty glasses.

Stuffed Rump Steak.—Two slices of rump steak, one cup stale bread crumbs, two tablespoons butter, one tablespoon minced onion, one teaspoon chopped parsley, one-eighth teaspoon pepper, same of sage, one teaspoon salt, one egg. The meat should be about one inch thick. Moisten the bread crumbs with hot water, add beaten egg and seasonings, and butter melted. Thoroughly blend and spread between the slices of steak and tie together with a string. Bake in a hot oven until tender. Baste often with hot water to which a little strained tomato has been added.

OLD STUNTS ARE BEST FOR HALLOWEEN NIGHT

HALLOWEEN is almost here, and with its approach come volumes of letters from excited youngsters all bubbling over with curiosity as to what is to be done and how to do it. To many it is a first experience; there are others who want "something new" and there are mothers who want to give "surprise" parties.

The only way to plan a Halloween party is to do the old stunts, perhaps in new ways. Traditions and legends do not change; it is only the novelty of our doing them; it is a blessed provision made by a loving Father that all things are new to each individual, though the things are as old as time itself.

Shopkeepers have made ample provision for favors, invitations and prizes. But if she has even a very little cleverness with pencil, brush and paste pot, most charming favors and invitations may be manufactured at home, and half the fun of a party is in the preparation and happy anticipation.

Cut Halloween designs from paper napkins and paste on cards or bits of wood; then write the invitation, or name, if for place cards. One shop has perfectly darling wee corn poppers filled with real popcorn; the corn may be popped over candles. Imagine a table set with these poppers at each place, the name tied to a card on the handle; a candle in a vegetable holder in front of each plate. What fun the guests would have.

Pumpkin and "jack o' lantern" seals are for sale, also all kinds and conditions of witches; some astride the proverbial broomstick, some with cats, and some without. It is a study to see all the conceits provided for the celebration of this last day of October.

A vegetable race makes a splendid diversion at a Halloween party. It is best to play this outdoors, unless there is plenty of room inside. Take vegetables and lay in two rows about six feet apart. In each row have six assorted vegetables, like carrots, beets, turnips, and potatoes. Place them a foot and a half apart. At the end of each line have a large tray or basket. Start two players at a time, each at the near end of a row. The game is to lift with a tablespoon one vegetable at a time and carry it to the basket. The one who makes the best time wins. Of course, there must be a judge and a timekeeper. Vegetable candy boxes make excellent prizes.

FAMINE IN GRAPES IS BEING RELIEVED

The unprecedented famine in grapes that has held Washington in its grasp since the beginning of the season, is at last beginning to break a little, according to the dealers.

For many weeks the almost complete failure of the crop in the famous vineyard sections of Delaware and New York caused a shortage in this city which supplies from other parts of the country failed to relieve. The Washington market was receiving from the usual sources only about 300 baskets daily as against as many thousands in former years. But now the dealers say the outlook is a little better and the shipments are daily growing larger.

Prices have not shown any falling off yet, but this, it is predicted, will follow in a few days. They now stand as follows on domestic grapes: Concord grapes, 14c per basket; Niagara, 15c to 16c per basket; Catawba, 15c per basket; Delaware, 16c per basket; Salinas, 15c per basket.

SOMETHING NEW FOR THE WOMEN

Opera bags are being shown in moire, colored with heavy antique tapestry binding and gold lace trimming. The frames are square, of gold or copper.

Fabric handbags are seen in fancy silks over metal frames, with chain or silk cord handles. Velvet bags are also in demand.

Empire girdles with long streamers have again become the mode. They are usually in silk and satin, though ribbons of these fabrics are also employed.

Fancy goods, like garments in general, are seen largely in black and white, or in one of these two shades.

Fabric girdles of strongly contrasting colors will be worn with separate blouses.

Cord effects are much used, and both cordier and Persian handbags will be made to match the fashionable gowns.

With Persian gowns or turbans, handbags of the same fabric and figuring will be used as handbags or inter-twining for the coiffure.

OLD SKEWERS.

A novel present given to a bride-to-be at a housekeeping shower was a set of four old silver skewers. The handies were quaintly carved, and always a matter of admiration and comment when drawn from a roast by the host.

So delighted was the giver by the success of her present that she has started collecting them in antique shops and on old farms and tumble-down houses on her travels. The advantage of such a collection is that it has not been done to death, so valuable finds are more probable.

ARTISTIC CHEESE.

The next time you have cheese with your salad try the effect of cutting rounds of red pepper about a quarter of an inch thick and filling the center with cream cheese. These rings should be prepared several hours before using and be kept on the ice until very cold. Pass as ordinary cheese with crackers.

Poems Women Should Know

Editor's Note: Every poem which will appear in this series is one that has brought a throb of hope, a throb of courage, a throb of happiness, or of inspiration to some human heart. In clipping and saving the series you cannot afford to miss one number.

"If I Could See Him Again."

(Published at the request of Mrs. Tom Landreghen.)

If I could see him again, God took him away one day, I could hear him say, Took him away from me; Merry and kind as he used to be, Now, though I labor the whole day through, Nobody asks: "What has come to you?"

All through the busy day, While I have been away? Often then I was cross: Often I used to reply: "What comes to a woman everywhere?" Washing, and baking, and household care; I declare it makes me cry To think how my days go by!"

Then he would kiss me again, Try to be still more kind; Tenderly say, "My poor little wife! Would I could give you an easier life!" How could I be so unkind? Oh, how could I be so blind?

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PROPER PLACING OF THE FLOWERS

Every Plant Is Improved by Its Setting If Appropriate.

PLACE WILD BLOOMS LOOSELY IN BOWLS

Autumn Leaves and Branches Look Best in Large Pottery.

WE should not associate in the same vase flowers that have nothing in common in the garden. No one should see in our rooms sunflowers and hothouse roses, lilies of the valley and golden rod in the same holders. Each has its place indoors, but not together.

Feeling will not permit us to rob flowers of their foliage or their stems; it will not permit us to mass tall-growing plants that should sway and make hothouse bouquets of wildlings from the woods.

What To Put In Bowls.

Every flower is improved by its proper setting, and the artist realizes that the setting should be as nearly as possible as it is grown. Pansies, nasturtiums, sedum and moss roses look at their best when cradled into low bowls with the foliage forming a graceful background.

Take the wild flowers of the woods, and golden rod, why do so many fail to realize their possibilities for indoor decoration? Because they are stripped of their leaves and pushed closely into vases unsuited to their length of stem and coloring.

Have you ever seen a great bunch of wild carrot stuck loosely in a great jar of gray pottery so that each blossom droops against the green of the leaves? It is a waste of the possibilities of a rank weed.

Golden rod must be placed to show each individual stalk, and crushed into a tight wad. It can be set off by purple aster, and looks lovely with maple leaves brushed by a hard frost into autumnal tints.

Arranging Branches.

Autumn leaves, bunches of barberry, kochia branches, all look their best indoors when placed in a large pottery or brass jar with plenty of space to spread freely. Earlier in the season this is the treatment for the apple, cherry, and peach blossoms, for dogwood and thorn, lilacs, dentzia, and forsythia; later, for holly.

If you have but one or two flowers do not put them into a narrow little vase about an inch in diameter. Try the effect of setting them in a low bowl, holding them upright by Japanese holders in both ends of bowl. You will notice their graceful swaying beauty never before.

Don't bunch any flowers and never arrange them without a bit of foliage. They are transformed by the latter. If you are skeptical buy a bunch of garden pinks sold in the market, cut the circling string and let them fall at will in a wide mouthed, low vase, in which have been stuck a few ferns.

FRINGES ARE USED MUCH FOR SKIRTS

Fringes are now being used not only for the bottom of the tunic or overskirt but for the trimming on the foot of the skirt also, and they seem to be considered appropriate garniture for many sorts of materials.

One of the most striking of the new velvet gowns has the skirt trimmed only with fringe, which is so deep that it is set on far above the knees and reaches to within two or three inches of the floor. Very heavy silk fringe with a deep netting of cord at the top was used for this gown. A deep fringe and netting was also used to finish the straight sleeves, so that the fringe came just below the elbow.

Chiffon, trimmed around the foot with bands of passementerie, edged with beaded or silk fringe, and the sleeves are made of narrow strips of the passementerie, from which the fringe falls prettily over the arms.

Spangled gowns, or rather the tunics which are spangled, are also finished with long, effective fringes of beads and gold sequins or crystal drops. These strands are often quite wide apart, the effect obtained being that of strands of sparkling raindrops or tiny flecks of bright colored dew upon the lace trimmed underskirt.

NEW BARPINS.

The latest in the "minor jewelry" is the long barpin, four to six inches in length, which are being used to fasten automobile veils, and, less frequently, collars and jabots. They come in plain metal and enamel finishes, and in the heavy, barbaric semi-precious stones so popular nowadays.

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THE TICKLE MOUSE

AND

His Sleepyland Adventures with Davy and Dorfy

BY ROY RUTHERFORD BAILEY

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The Bewitched Jack O'Lantern

"O-OH!" breathed Dorfy, clapping her little hands softly as Davy finished cutting the jagged, grinning mouth in the pumpkin's yellow face.

"Oh, isn't he a fierce-looking old Jack O'Lantern?"

"Snix," the Laughingmouse, took one look at the grinning pumpkin and went off into gales of laughter. Teddy and Willy and even the Ticklemouse laughed too, for Davy had given a very comical twist to Jack's nose, and when the candle was lighted it looked as if he were trying to wiggle a mosquito off his pudgy nose!

It was still early in the evening, and every now and then people passed by along the quiet street. Whenever anybody came near, Dorfy spread her skirts in front of the shining Jack, and nobody was the wiser.

But suddenly, when a yell and a whoop, two boys spied the grinning face and raced toward it. The nice and the twins had just time to draw back into the shadows when the boys reached the lantern man and lifted him to the top of the gate post.

"Keep his face turned away from the street," whispered one boy to the other, "and when folks come along we'll give 'em the scare of their lives!"

"Sure pop," whispered the other. "S-s-say, what's that?" For he heard a little snicker in the shadows.

"Oh, nothing, I guess." The boys didn't see Snix creep up behind the gate post, shin up to the top of the gate post, and appear inside the lantern. How could they guess that inside the grinning Jack O'Lantern a fat mouse was stuffing himself, laughing softly as he nibbled and swallowed, nibbled and swallowed?

"There comes somebody!" muttered the biggest boy at last. The tall, boy figure of old Squire Dwyght was coming down the street. "Wait till he gets closer before we flash it on him—Now!" The Jack O'Lantern spun around on the gate post, but Squire Dwyght never so much as jumped. He walked steadily past, and they heard him slam his door after him a moment later.

"Well, what do you think of that?" said one boy to another. "Oh, no wonder—the candle's gone out."

"I've got a match," said the other. "And there's lots of candle left—I looked especially to see."

What was the Lantern bewitched? For when they went to relight the candle they found nothing but a long, drooping wick—all the tallow was gone! And somewhere, away back in the shadows, they heard the cheerful chuckle of a very fat, well-fed little Laughingmouse. Snix knew where the candle had gone!